

Tristan da Cunha has already been mentioned under that species, and this affords additional evidence in favour of the specific difference of the two forms.

This species was, however, observed off Gough Island by the Scottish Expedition in somewhat less numbers than the last, but no specimens were obtained there.

23. *EUDYPTES CHRYSOCOME* (Forster).

Several Rock-hopper Penguins were seen ashore, but at places where they could not be reached. Two skeletons, with some feathers still adhering to them, were found on the beach where the landing was effected, and were secured.

At Gough Island, Mr. Comer says (Verrill, *t. c.* p. 462), there is no other kind of Penguin. They "number millions" and commence to lay by the 15th of September. This is the only species of Penguin found at Tristan da Cunha, where it breeds on all three islands.

In addition to the three endemic land-birds, to which special allusion has already been made, the following marine species have been recorded for the Tristan da Cunha Isles which have not been observed or obtained at Gough Island, namely :—*Anous melanogenys*, *Pelagodroma marina*, and *Daption capeusis*, which Moseley (*op. cit.* p. 134) says breeds there !

XXII.—Notices of recent Ornithological Publications.

[Continued from p. 135.]

32. *Andersen on the Birds of the Færoe Islands.*

[Meddelelser om Færoernes Fugle. 6te Række. Ved Knud Andersen. Vidensk. Meddel. Khvn. 1895, p. 53.]

Mr. Andersen continues his notes on the birds of the Færoe Islands (see 'Ibis,' 1903, p. 248)—a group which, situated halfway between Great Britain and Iceland, is of much interest to English ornithologists, though comparatively seldom visited by them. The birds, however, appear to be well watched by the native observers, whose notes are here given, put together in methodical order. They relate to 103 species.

33. 'Aquila,' 1904.

[Aquila: Zeitschrift für Ornithologie. Redact. Otto Herman. Tom. xi. Budapest, 1904.]

'Aquila,' the official Hungarian periodical for Ornithology, edited by Otto Herman, has been issued for 1904, in one volume of 400 pages. It contains a mass of statistics on the arrival of the Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) in Hungary (to which we invite the attention of the members of the newly appointed Committee on Migration of the B. O. C.) and much discussion on the good and bad habits of the Rook (*Corvus frugilegus*), besides minor contributions. An example of Bonelli's Eagle (*Nisaetus fusciatus*) is recorded as having been obtained in the district of Mosorin in April 1903. The species is stated to be new to the Hungarian Ornis.

34. 'Avicultural Magazine.'

[Avicultural Magazine. The Journal of the Avicultural Society. New Series. Vol. iii. Nos. 1-3. London: Nov. 1904 to Jan. 1905.]

In these three parts of the 'Avicultural Magazine' a large number of the papers relate, as usual, to the successful breeding of various birds in captivity, the most striking being those of Mr. W. H. St. Quintin, Mrs. Johnstone, and Mr. W. P. Pycraft. In the first of these, concerned with the breeding of *Pterocles exustus*, the author calls attention to the habit of the male Sand-Grouse, which soaks its breast in water to give drink to the young, a fact ascertained by Mr. Meade-Waldo in the case of *P. alchata*. In the second article the lady-writer describes the nesting of Fraser's Touraco (*Turacus macrorhynchus*) in her aviaries, and so leads up to the third, wherein Mr. Pycraft gives full details of the newly-hatched young of the Touraco, the downy stage of which has already been noted by Sir Harry Johnston in the case of *Turacus livingstoni* and *Gallirex chlorochlanys*. The nestling remains downy for at least a month after it is hatched, though the quill-feathers are greatly developed at an early stage, the outer secondaries and innermost primaries being the longest. The major coverts, moreover,

are the first feathers to complete their growth. The "feet" are very large and the "legs" very short, the former being semi-zygodactylous, as the outer toe can be turned at right angles to the axis of the middle toe, with which it is connected by a web. Mrs. Johnstone gives a woodcut of the nestling and Mr. Pycraft contributes illustrations of the wings and down-feathers.

In an account of some of the birds of the Seychelles Mr. B. C. Thomasset gives us the welcome intelligence that the fine Pigeon *Alectorænas pulcherrima* is still numerous where protected.

Coloured plates are furnished of the European and Himalayan Goldfinches and of *Leptoptila jamaicensis*.

35. *Bebe on the Psychology of Birds.*

[Some Notes on the Psychology of Birds. By C. William Bebe. Abstr. Proc. Linn. Soc. New York, 1902-4, p. 40.]

We hardly know what to say about this paper, to which our attention has been specially invited, but fear that some of the stories told in it are more or less of an imaginative character. We confess to have read of crows sitting in judgment on one of their fellows and executing the offender after due condemnation, but thought it was in Gay's Fables! Who saw the Loon "risk its life" in order to save a Grebe from an ice-trap? When we come to such matters as "play" and "courtship," we enter on less debatable ground. Every one will allow the importance of these functions in the life of birds, and they present facts which cannot possibly be controverted. Here, at least, we are on solid ground. But they should not, in our opinion, be mixed up with speculations concerning which no proof is possible.

36. *Bishop on the Breeding of North-American Birds.*

[The Eggs and Breeding-Habits of some comparatively little-known North-American Birds. By L. B. Bishop, M.D. Abstr. Proc. Linn. Soc. New York. 1902-4, p. 48.]

Dr. Bishop describes the nesting-habits and eggs of *Rallus crepitans scotti*, *Rallus crepitans waynei*, *Agelæus phæniceus*

floridanus, and other subspecies from Florida, Carolina, and Dakota, after his own observations.

37. *Bonhote on Coloration in Mammals and Birds.*

[On Coloration in Mammals and Birds. By J. Lewis Bonhote. Journ. Linn. Soc., Zool. xxix. pp. 185-187.]

This paper is an abstract of Mr. Bonhote's article on the subject of coloration, and aims at shewing that colour is chiefly due, in the case of mammals and birds, to activity of nutrition and function (vigour), which itself depends on temperature, food, and sexual activity. Instances are taken from the various regions of the world to explain the reasons of dark hues, bright tints, and bleaching. The centres from which "bleaching" takes place it is proposed to name "pœcilomeres." The discussion of seasonal changes and protective coloration is purposely omitted.

38. *Bureau on the Sooty Tern.*

[Note sur la présence accidentelle de la Sterne fuligineuse, *Sterna fuliginosa* Gmel., sur les Côtes de le Loire-Inférieure. Par le Dr. Louis Bureau. Ext. du Bull. Soc. Sci. Nat. de l'ouest de la France, 2^e sér. iv. pp. 227-256.]

The author notices and figures a specimen of *Sterna fuliginosa* killed near Pornic on July 24, 1904. He takes the opportunity, moreover, of discussing the various stages of plumage of the bird, its history, distribution, and reproduction, with full details in all cases. He gives, by way of comparison, the occurrences of other species of Terns from the Tropical Seas and from Europe.

39. *Chapman on the Birds of Alaska.*

[List of the Birds collected in Alaska by the Andrew-J.-Stone-Expedition of 1903. By Frank M. Chapman. Bull. Am. Mus. N. H. vol. xx. p. 399. New York, 1904.]

This is a report on the birds obtained in Alaska by Mr. M. P. Anderson, who accompanied Mr. Stone as collector during his expedition in the summer and autumn of 1903. The series contains 317 birds and 35 sets of eggs. The

birds are referred to 62 species, all of which were previously known and named. Seven specimens of *Somateria v-nigrum* (not *v-nigra*!) were obtained at Bird Island, Seldovia, and two nests were taken, one with 5 eggs and another with 4.

40. Chapman on the Nesting of the Flamingo.

[(1) A Flamingo City, recording a recent Exploration in a little-known Field of Ornithology. By Frank M. Chapman. Century Magazine, December 1904.

(2) Young Flamingoes. By Frank M. Chapman. Bird-Lore, vol. vi. No. 6, Nov.-Dec. 1904.]

In the first of these articles Mr. Chapman gives a well-written and most interesting account of his visit in May 1894 to a nesting-place of the Red Flamingo (*Phœnicopterus ruber*) in one of the islands of the Bahama group. The narrative is profusely illustrated by photographic pictures taken on the spot, and by coloured plates which shew us every phase of the existence of this remarkable bird from the egg to the adult. It is, in fact, a most attractive piece of work, and we are only sorry that it should lie buried among a mass of ordinary fiction, not always of a first-class character. But no ornithologist should omit to read it.

In the second article, in 'Bird-Lore,' further particulars are given concerning the habits and plumages of the young Flamingo. This is also appropriately illustrated.

We venture to think, however, that the original source from whence Mr. Chapman gained his information as to the existence of the "Flamingo-rookery" should have been more clearly stated. We believe that it was due to the active researches of a well-known member of the B. O. U. that the discovery was made*. It would also have been better to state that the idea of the Flamingo "straddling" across its nest in order to cover its eggs had not only been upset twenty years ago, but that the exact position of the legs when the bird is sitting had been correctly figured from Mr. Chapman's sketches in 1884†.

* Cf. Bull. B. O. C. xv. p. 51 (1905).

† See 'Ibis,' 1884, pl. iv.

41. 'The Emu.'

[The Emu. A Quarterly Magazine to popularize the Study and Protection of Native Birds. Official Organ of the Australasian Ornithologists' Union. Melbourne: 1904, vol. iv. pt. 2.]

Even in Australia new discoveries must gradually become less frequent, though many districts still need fuller exploration, so it is not surprising that this part of 'The Emu' contains less that is absolutely novel than many of its predecessors. Nevertheless, there are several interesting papers, the chief of which are by Mr. J. F. Kilgour on a trip to the Ord River, West Australia; by Mr. A. W. Milligan on some critical species from the same colony and their allies; and by Mr. F. L. Berney on migratory birds in North Queensland. Mr. Kilgour, in particular, gives an account of the bower, nest, and eggs of *Chlamydera nuchalis*. Articles on British Papua, Bird Sanctuaries in New Zealand, and so forth, followed by the usual minor contributions, complete the part.

42. Figgins's Field-notes on Alaskan Birds.

[Field-notes on the Birds and Mammals of the Cook's Inlet Region of Alaska. By J. D. Figgins. Abstr. Proc. Linn. Soc. New York, 1902-4, Nos. 15-18 (1904).]

These field-notes relate to the collection made during the "Stone Expedition" of 1901, and are additional to those published in Mr. Chapman's Report on the birds collected during that expedition (see Bull. A. M. N. H. xvi. p. 231, and 'Ibis,' 1903, p. 415). The preface contains an interesting description of the Cook's Inlet district, which is called the "summerland of Alaska" and is the resort of "countless thousands of waterfowl."

43. Godman's 'Biologia Centrali-Americana.'

[Biologia Centrali-Americana; or, Contributions to the Knowledge of the Fauna and Flora of Mexico and Central America. Edited by F. DuCane Godman. (Zoology.) Parts CLXXVIII.-CLXXXV. London: R. H. Porter.]

We have now the pleasure of announcing the completion

of the "Birds" of this important work, to the progress of which frequent allusions have been made in our columns. The last two parts issued contain the Index, the Title-pages, and the Introduction. As completed, the "Birds" of the 'Biologia' make four handsome volumes—three of text and one of plates, which are 79 in number, drawn by Keulemans and beautifully coloured.

Mr. Godman's "Introduction" will be read with interest. After Salvin's death, "which greatly retarded the issue of the third volume," the help of Dr. Bowdler Sharpe and Mr. Ogilvie-Grant was obtained, and the "Birds," which had been commenced in September 1879, were brought to an end in November last. The supplement, at one time projected, was wisely, as we think, abandoned. "The critical examination of the large amount of additional material that had come to hand during the progress of publication, and the analysis of the extensive literature on the subject issued in recent years, could only have been dealt with satisfactorily with the assistance of Salvin himself," and Mr. Godman "was reluctantly compelled to leave this portion of the subject untouched."

"The 1413 species of birds included in this work embrace representatives of 78 families and 539 genera. Out of the twenty Orders given in the 'Nomenclator Avium Neotropicalium' (1873), all but three (the Opisthocomi, the Struthionæ, and the Impennes) are represented. The other Neotropical families wholly absent from Central America are the Phytotomidæ amongst the Passeres; the Steatornithidæ, of the Macrochires; the Todidæ, of the Cocyges; the Palamedeidæ, of the Anseres; the Cariamidæ and Psophiidæ, of the Geranomorphæ; and the Chionididæ and Thinocoridæ, of the Limicolæ. To the Passeres belong rather more than half (741) of the total number of Central-American species, this proportion being much greater than that given in the 'Nomenclator' for the whole of the Neotropical Region, with 3565 species, where the numbers are 1976 and 1589 respectively."

Out of the total number of 1413 species included in this

portion of the work, 636 are "endemic"—*i. e.*, not found outside the geographical limits selected. Of the endemic species, 271 are restricted to Mexico, Honduras, or Guatemala, 3 to Nicaragua, and 162 to Costa Rica or Panama, the remainder being more widely distributed within the area treated. The Trochilidæ are the most numerous family in Central America, having 118 representatives, and the Fringillidæ, with 104 species, come next.

"To summarize the results arrived at, the Avifauna of Central America may be described as essentially Neotropical, with certain peculiar forms (such as *Oreophasis derbianus*, *Meleagris ocellata*, *Pharomacrus mocino*, and *Zeledonia coronata*) restricted to it. Central America, as here treated, is in fact merely a subregion of the Neotropical Region, with a large admixture of Nearctic forms, especially during the northern winter."

Mr. Godman next proceeds to describe shortly the various journeys made by Salvin and himself to Central America in quest of materials for the present work. Salvin went three times to Guatemala, in 1857, 1861, and 1867, accompanied during part of his second journey by Mr. Godman. His usual headquarters were Dueñas, about 30 miles south of the capital, situated between the volcanoes of Agua and Fuego, but many other places were visited and the whole country was carefully searched. In 1887-8 Mr. Godman made an expedition to Southern Mexico and took with him some excellent collectors, all of whom did good work and continued to obtain specimens for him after his return home. The assistance of other collectors was also obtained—Rogers in Costa Rica, Lloyd and Armstrong in Northern Mexico, Gummer in Yucatan, Blancaneaux in British Honduras, and McCleannan on the Panama Railway. Other large collections were acquired by purchase, and from all quarters an enormous series of 86,000 bird-skins was assembled, which by a noble act of generosity has been transferred to the British Museum at South Kensington.

The Introduction to the "Birds" of the 'Biologia' concludes with tables shewing the distribution first of the families

and then of the species of the Birds of Mexico and Central America. The list of species, especially among the Passeres, has been already augmented by the energetic ornithologists of the United States, and a few more forms may yet remain to be discovered. But the present work on the Avifauna of Central America, as described by the authors, will ever constitute a standing monument of their industry and munificence, and has now, after a long period of hard work, been brought to a successful conclusion, forming one of the most carefully prepared and well-executed bird-books of the present epoch.

It must also be recollected that the "Birds" are but a fragment of the great work of which the four volumes form a portion, the 'Biologia,' with its twenty volumes, embracing nearly every branch of the terrestrial fauna, besides Botany and Antiquities.

44. Hartert on Birds from N.W. Australia.

[List of Birds collected in North-west Australia and Arnhem Land by Mr. J. S. Tunney. By E. Hartert, Ph.D. Nov. Zool. xii. p. 194 (1905).]

As arranged by Dr. B. Woodward, the Curator of the Perth Museum, Mr. Tunney went to North-west Australia, the least-known part of the continent, in quest of mammals and birds for Tring, and made a large collection, of which we have a good account in this paper. Examples of no less than 221 species and subspecies of birds were obtained, of which the following are now characterized as new:—*Colluricincla woodwardi*, *Cracticus quoyi tunneyi*, *Gymnorhina tibicen longirostris*, *Pæcilodryas cinereiceps*, and *Myzomela obscura grisescens*. Many other little-known species are in the List.

45. Hartert and Ogilvie-Grant on the Birds of the Azores.

[On the Birds of the Azores. By Ernst Hartert, Ph.D., and W. R. Ogilvie-Grant. Nov. Zool. xii. p. 80 (1905).]

We have here a most interesting account by Mr. Ogilvie-Grant of his expedition to the Azores in 1903, accompanied by a complete list of all the birds as yet known

to occur in that group of islands prepared by Mr. Hartert, with Mr. Grant's field-notes on the species which he observed.

In his introductory remarks Mr. Hartert gives us a general sketch of the Azorean ornithology, from which we gather the following particulars:—

The ornithology of the Azores is entirely Palearctic, and is poor in the number of species. We may accept the occurrence of about 120 species in the group, of which 26 or 27 breed there. Some of these are perfectly identical with those of Europe (e. g., *Erithacus rubecula* and *Sylvia atricapilla*), but others have become slightly differentiated (e. g., *Columba palumbus azorica*, *Sturnus vulgaris granti*, and *Turdus merula azorensis*). One, the Grey Bullfinch (*Pyrrhula murina*), is remarkably distinct from its congeners. A few species are the same as Madeiran and Canarian forms or closely allied to them (such as *Serinus canaria* and *Fringilla moreleti*), but none of the more remarkable forms peculiar to Madeira and the Canaries occur in the Azores.

After Mr. Hartert's introductory remarks we find Mr. Ogilvie-Grant's lively narrative of the expedition, in which he was accompanied by his brother-in-law, Mr. G. A. St. Quintin, M.B.O.U., and Mr. L. C. Harwood as taxidermist. This journal we need not enlarge upon—it will be read with pleasure by the author's many friends,—but we may say that the party met with a most courteous reception from the officials, and, apparently, everyone else in the different islands of the Azorean group, to nearly all of which they paid a visit, not, however, without experiencing certain difficulties from wind and weather. Some good photographic text-figures illustrate Mr. Grant's narrative.

At Ponta Delgada Major F. A. Chaves, head of the meteorological service, received the party in the kindest manner and gave them assistance of every sort. Here was found a good local museum, containing a very fair series of zoological specimens, got together by Major Chaves's energy.

The third part of the memoir contains Mr. Hartert's "List of the Birds of the Azores," and contains the names

of 121 species—shewing a considerable increase on Mr. Godman's list of 1870, which enumerated only 53 species. It is interspersed with Mr. Grant's field-notes, which are short, but always to the point. The new subspecies described are *Columba palumbus azorica* and *Turdus merula azorensis*, several others having been previously named. But the only absolutely distinct and easily recognised species peculiar to the Azores is the Bullfinch (*Pyrrhula murina*), to which, however, Mr. Hartert allows only subspecific rank. This fine bird, although plentiful when discovered by Mr. Godman, has now become very scarce, and its complete extinction, we are told, is probably only a matter of a few years. Mr. Grant had some difficulty in obtaining a single pair.

46. *Hatcher on the Birds of Patagonia.*

[Reports of the Princeton University Expeditions to Patagonia 1896-1899. J. B. Hatcher in Charge. Edited by William D. Scott, Slade Professor of Geology and Palæontology, Princeton University. Volume I. Narrative of the Expeditions. By J. B. Hatcher. 4to. Princeton & Stuttgart, 1903. 314 pp.]

In our last number (above, p. 131) we gave a notice of the first part of Mr. W. E. D. Scott's work on the birds of Patagonia, which is based mainly on the collections made by Mr. Hatcher and his active assistants during his three expeditions to that country. Mr. Hatcher's principal object was to collect the fossils of Patagonia, concerning which the remarkable discoveries of Dr. Florentino Ameghino and his brother "had so strongly aroused the interest of the scientific world." But while the geological collections were being made the examination of the present fauna and flora of Patagonia was by no means neglected, and large series of specimens in nearly every branch of natural history, especially mammals, birds, and plants, were accumulated. The narrative of the journeys of Mr. Hatcher and his assistants is contained in the volume now before us, and will be found well worthy of perusal. The point of landing and the headquarters of the three expeditions was Gallegos, near the mouth of the river of the same name, in Southern Patagonia, from which, as a base, a large extent of the Argentine

territory of Santa Cruz was explored and investigated. We call special attention to this work because of the numerous descriptions of the bird-life of the country interspersed in it, which certainly should not be neglected by the ornithologist, although it is probable that the main facts here recorded will also be given by Mr. W. E. D. Scott in his special ornithological volume, the first part of which was noticed in our last number. We may call attention, for example, to the passages on the Carrion-Hawks (*Polybori*) of Patagonia (p. 57), to the numerous allusions to the Patagonian Rhea (*Rhea darwini*) and the Condor (*Sarcorhamphus gryphus*), to the description of the large colonies of the Black-faced Ibis (*Theristicus melanopsis*) (p. 178), and to the account of the peculiar habits of *Upucerthia dumetoria* (p. 83). Many other references to birds will be found in Mr. Hatcher's narrative, which amply prove that, although Palæontology may be his first love, he is an acute and much interested observer of existing animal-life as well as that of bygone ages.

47. Hellmayr on Brazilian Finches.

[Ueber neue und wenig bekannte Fringilliden Brasiliens, nebst Bemerkungen über nothwendige Änderungen in der Nomenclatur einiger Arten. Von K. E. Hellmayr. Verh. zool.-bot. Gesellsch. in Wien, 1904, p. 616.]

We are glad to understand that Herr Hellmayr has in preparation a general review of the Brazilian Ornis, which will be a very useful piece of work. As a contribution thereto we have before us a paper on some of the Fringillidæ of Brazil, which is of much value, although, in our opinion, all changes in established nomenclature should be deprecated unless absolutely necessary.

The unfortunate *Amaurospiza maesta* is clearly shewn to have received four different names from four different authorities. We may hope that the proper appellation of this rare Finch is now finally settled.

The rest of Mr. Hellmayr's paper is taken up with remarks on the Brazilian species of *Spermophila*, or, as the author,

following Dr. Cabanis, calls it, *Sporophila*, of which 12 species, besides subspecies, are recognised. Two of the species are described as new—*S. saturata* from South Brazil, and *S. Lorenzi*, probably from Cayenne. Mr. Hellmayr has examined most of the types of the different species, and appears to have done his work well.

48. *Hutton on the Curlew-Sandpiper.*

[On the Occurrence of the Curlew-Sandpiper in New Zealand. Trans. New Zealand Inst. xxxvi. p. 155 (1904).]

Capt. Hutton records the occurrence of two specimens of the Curlew-Sandpiper (*Tringa subarquata*) at Lake Ellesmere, in New Zealand, in April 1903. As this far-wandering bird had already been met with in Australia and Tasmania, this occurrence is not to be wondered at. One of the specimens was sent to the British Museum.

49. *Ihering on the Birds of Paraguay and S. Paulo.*

[Estudo comparativo das Avifaunas de Paraguay e de S. Paulo, por H. von Ihering. Revista d. Mus. Paul. vi. p. 310 (1904).]

After a short enumeration of the principal authorities on the Birds of Paraguay and a useful list of the titles of their books and papers, Herr v. Ihering gives a systematic catalogue of the species ascertained to belong to the avifauna, with occasional remarks as required. All the supposed "new species" of Bertoni* are referred to their correct headings. The list, which nearly follows the arrangement of the 'Nomenclator,' contains 470 names. The author then proceeds to the birds of S. Paulo, at which he has so long and so zealously laboured, and makes alterations in, and additions to, his account of the avifauna published in the fifth volume of the 'Revista' †. With these additions and omissions, the ornithology of S. Paulo is credited with 657 species. The memoir concludes with a "Zoo-geographical Discussion" of the avifaunas of Paraguay and South Brazil, which is worthy of careful study.

* Cf. 'Ibis,' 1904, p. 172.

† See 'Ibis,' 1891, p. 134, and 1903, p. 421.

50. *Macoun on Canadian Birds.*

[Catalogue of Canadian Birds. Part III. Sparrows, Swallows, Vireos, Warblers, Wrens, Titmice and Thrushes. Including the Order Passeres after the Icteridæ. By John Macoun. Ottawa: 1904. 8vo. Pp. i-iv, 415-733, and (Index) pp. i-xxiii. Price 10 cents.]

This part of Mr. Macoun's Catalogue, which concludes the work, though an addendum will be shortly forthcoming, is devoted to those of the Passeres which have not already been treated (see *Ibis*, 1904, p. 157). It is far from being a mere list of species, as most valuable notes are given on their distribution and breeding-habits. The nests and eggs are in several cases described "for the first time" by Mr. Raine (*e. g.* of *Leucosticte tephrocotis* and *Zonotrichia querula*), but we are not informed whether the description has appeared in print before, or, in other words, whether it is now quoted from the 'Ottawa Naturalist' or other periodicals to which Mr. Raine is accustomed to contribute.

The services of several new observers have been obtained, and many districts more carefully examined, as, for instance, Southern British Columbia, the Peace-River region, and the country round Banff, in the Rocky Mountains. Details are constantly added concerning the islands off the west coast, and there is a particularly interesting article on *Ampelis garrulus*.

51. *Madarász on the Birds of Cyprus.*

[Ueber die Vögel Cyperns. Von Dr. Julius Madarász. Ann. Mus. Nat. Hung. ii. p. 499. Buda-Pesth, 1904.]

A new list of the birds of Cyprus is not unwelcome, as that of the late Lord Lilford was published (in this Journal) in 1889, and much has been done since that date. Dr. v. Madarász bases his memoir on the birds transmitted to the National Hungarian Museum by Herr Ch. Glaszner, who has been resident at Larnaca since 1891, and has thus had exceptionally good opportunities of studying the Bird-life of Cyprus.

Herr Glaszner has sent to Buda-Pesth considerable series of some species (upwards of 100 specimens of *Sylvia melano-*

thorax!), and has augmented the Cyprian avifauna by the discovery of such representative forms as *Parus aphrodite*, *Scops cypria*, *Garrulus glasneri*, *Loxia guillemardi*, and others, which are restricted to the island. Thus supplemented, the ornis of Cyprus is now shown to contain 249 species. We confess, however, to being a little doubtful about some of them. Are there really three different Starlings in Cyprus—*S. poltaraszki*, *S. purpurascens*, and *S. porphyronotus*?

52. Osgood on the Birds of the Alaskan Peninsula.

[North-American Fauna.—No. 24. A Biological Reconnaissance of the Base of the Alaska Peninsula. By W. H. Osgood, Assistant Biological Survey. Washington, 1904.]

This is an account of one of the summer tours to which our friend Dr. C. Hart Merriam, Chief of the Division of the Biological Survey of the U.S., occasionally treats himself or some member of his staff. On this occasion the base of the Alaskan Peninsula, being little known to naturalists, was selected for investigation, and Mr. Wilfred H. Osgood, an assistant in the Biological Survey, was deputed for the task. The well-written and nicely illustrated report now before us shews how the "biological reconnaissance" was accomplished, while the exact route followed is plainly set forth on several maps. There is much general information to be gained from the pages of this memoir, and the "list of birds" contains a series of valuable field-notes relating to about 130 species.

Of *Phylloscopus borealis*, which has recently been ascertained to intrude into Western Alaska, two specimens were obtained in July 1902.

53. Reichenow's 'Birds of Africa.'

[Die Vögel Afrikas, von Ant. Reichenow. Dritte Band, erste Hälfte. Neudamm: J. Neumann, 1904.]

The first portion of the third volume of Dr. Reichenow's 'Vögel Afrikas,' which has been lately issued, contains his

account of the Ploceidæ, Fringillidæ, Motacillidæ, Alaudidæ, and Pycnonotidæ—altogether making about 490 species. We are glad to observe that though subspecies are recognised, they are not included in the numbering of the species, which already amount to 1786. The following species are figured in four plates:—*Glucidium castaneum*, *Pisorhina badia*, *Erythropygia hartlaubi*, *E. vulpecula*, *Tarsiger orientalis*, *T. guttatus*, *Alethe poliothorax*, *Bradypterus castaneus*, *Andropodus montanus*, *Bleda poliocephala*, and *Phyllostrephus chlorigula*.

54. Reichenow on the Birds of the German Deep-sea Expedition.

[Übersicht der auf der deutschen Tiefsee Expedition gesammelten Vögel. Von Anton Reichenow. 1904. (Two coloured plates.)]

The seventh volume of the series of reports on the scientific results of the voyage of the German Deep-sea Expedition under Prof. Chun contains an account of the birds obtained, drawn up by Dr. Reichenow. In all 71 species are enumerated, most of which are, as might be expected, marine. Three new “conspecies” are characterised—*Corvus splendens maledivicus* from the Maldives, *Buchanga stigmatops phædra* from Sumatra, and *Butorides javanicus albo-limbatus* from Diego Garcia.

Charadrius rufocinctus from S.E. Africa and *Homopelia picturata chuni* from Diego Garcia, both already described by Dr. Reichenow (Orn. Monatsb. viii. p. 123, 1900), are now figured. The typical *H. picturata* is figured in company with the latter.

In relation to this voyage, Prof. Van Höffen’s article in the ‘Journal f. Ornithologie’ for 1901 should be consulted.

55. Riley on a new *Myiarchus*.

[Description of a new *Myiarchus* from Grenada and St. Vincent, West Indies. By J. H. Riley. Smiths. Miscell. Coll. vol. ii. p. 275 (1904).]

Myiarchus oberi nugator (subsp. nov.) represents this form of Tyrant-bird in Grenada and St. Vincent. The types are in the U.S. National Museum.

56. *Riley on Birds from Barbuda and Antigua, West Indies.*

[Catalogue of a Collection of Birds from Barbuda and Antigua, British West Indies. By J. H. Riley. Smiths. Miscell. Coll. vol. ii. p. 297 (1904).]

In this paper we have an account of a collection of 324 skins formed by Mr. E. G. Selwyn-Branch on the (ornithologically) little-known islands of Barbuda and Antigua, British West Indies, in 1903, and acquired by the U.S. National Museum. Adding previous records we are now acquainted with 59 species and subspecies from Barbuda and 61 from Antigua.

A new subspecies of Kestrel from Porto Rico is described as *Cerchneis sparveria loquacula*, and a new and distinct species of *Dendroæca* from Barbuda is named *D. subita*. The form of *Coccyzus* in Dominica (*C. dominicæ* Shelley) is quite unnecessarily renamed *Coccyzus shelleyi*. We may be allowed to point out that "*dominicus*" is an adjective and "*dominicæ*" a feminine substantive in the genitive case, and that these two terms are *not* identical.

57. *Robinson on Malayan Birds.*

[List of a small Collection of Mammals, Birds, and Batrachians from Gunong Angsi, Negri Sembilan. By Robert C. Robinson, M.B.O.U. Journ. Fed. Malay States Mus. vol. i. p. 25 (1895).]

The first number of the new journal lately started by the Museums of the Federated States of the Malay Peninsula contains, among other articles on a variety of subjects, one which refers to our branch of science. This is a list of the birds procured by the Dyak hunters of the Selangor Museum on Gunong Angsi, the highest point of a range of hills in Negri Sembilan, not connected with the main range and covered with heavy timber. The list, we are told by Mr. Robinson, seems to shew that the characteristic Himalayo-Sondaic forms, such as *Sibia*, *Mesia*, and *Pterythrus*, do not occur on these mountains, which, so far as our present information goes, are tenanted by typical Malayan

forms, identical with those found on Mount Ophir and in the Johore Hills.

Mr. Robinson's list of birds contains the names of 34 species, to which short remarks are added. None of them are new, but some are not yet quite positively identified.

58. *Smith Woodward on Fossil Birds.*

[A Guide to the Fossil Mammals and Birds in the Department of Geology and Palæontology in the British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London, S.W. With 6 plates and 88 text-figures, Eighth edition. London, 1904. Price Sixpence.]

This is, we may surely say, as cheap a sixpennyworth of scientific matter as has ever been offered to the public for their instruction. The greater part of the 'Guide' is, of course, devoted to the Mammals, which in their fossil state are very much more numerous than Birds. But the last ten pages of the work are occupied by a condensed account of the principal extinct forms of bird-life, and are illustrated by text-figures in which their leading features are admirably shown. We have the wonderful skulls of *Odontopteryx* and *Phororhacos*, and the whole skeletons of *Hesperornis*, *Ichthyornis*, and *Dinornis* set before us, besides interesting particulars concerning the only two known specimens of the anomalous form *Archæopteryx* yet discovered, which are now-a-days referred to two different species.

59. *Vallentin on Birds from the Falkland Islands.*

[Notes on the Falkland Islands. By Rupert Vallentin. Manch. Mem. xlviii. pt. 3, no. 23. Manchester, 1904. Pp. 48.]

Mr. Vallentin, who has recently paid two visits to the Falkland Islands, has in the present memoir put together a good deal of information concerning this distant outlier of the Empire. Besides many allusions to the birds of the group, the author gives a special heading to the section "Aves," and arranges his field-notes of this subject in systematic order, following "as a Guide" Evans's volume on 'Birds.' About 36 species are mentioned, and interesting information is given with regard to many of them. The Penguins form a

leading feature in the Falklandian Avifauna, and good notes are given upon the four species of this family that are found in the group. Views, from photographs, of the "rookeries" of the Rock-hopper and Gentoo are added, but there is no map of the islands to shew their exact localities. Nor is the list of books and papers on the natural history of the Falklands by any means complete.

XXIII.—*Letters, Extracts, and Notes.*

WE have received the following letters addressed to "The Editors of 'The Ibis'":—

SIRS,—I wish to point out that *Ortholophus finschi* of Dr. Sharpe ('Ibis,' 1904, p. 610) is simply a synonym of *Buceros albocristatus* Cassin, of Liberia. If Dr. Sharpe had read my review carefully* he would hardly have written (*l. c.*): "I do not think that Dr. Finsch can have seen Cassin's plate and description in the 'Transactions of the Philadelphia Academy' (vol. i. p. 135, pl. 15)." In the carefully-compared synonymy of my paper on *Ortholophus* I have referred to all of Cassin's publications respecting this species, and especially to the description and plate xv., which appeared not in the 'Transactions' but in the 'Journal' of the Academy of Nat. Sci. Philad. (vol. i. 2nd ser., 1847-50, part ii., August 1848, p. 135, pl. xv.). This plate represents undoubtedly a specimen from Liberia (St. Paul's River: *MacDowell*), as is proved by the series in the Leiden Museum from Liberia (*Buttikerfer & Salu*) and Sierra Leone (*Demery*). I do not know for what reason Reichenow should doubt the origin of Cassin's type-specimen ("Fundort St. Paulsfluss irrthümlich," *Vög. Afr.* ii. p. 267, note) and refer *O. albocristatus* of Cassin to specimens from Lower Guinea—an erroneous view in which Dr. Sharpe has followed him. Of course, Cassin himself had wrongly identified specimens from the Gaboon with the form from Liberia, but

* "Ueber die Arten der Bucerotiden Gattung *Ortholophus*, Grant," in Notes from the Leyden Museum, vol. xxiii. (May 1903) p. 195.